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issued from the Eugenics Laboratory, and which contradict in every particular the author's statements.

Similarly in citing his authorities, the author, in this and in his former works is notoriously careless. Important and even questionable theories are propounded without any attempt to give the readers an accurate knowledge of their source. When citing one of Lester F. Ward's most significant contributions, Saleeby writes in a note "See his 'Pure Sociology.'" Scholars agree generally on certain methods of presenting data. Those men who expect a hearing among scholars must adhere to scholarly methods in exactly the same way as a man who is writing English must use dictionary terms.

I have devoted so much of this review to, what may appear to be, a narrow criticism, because of the flood of books which are continually written enthusiastically by able men, but written in such a manner that their statements cannot be accepted at their face value. We cannot question Saleeby's knowledge of his material, but we may justly protest, and protest vigorously, against ragged and unscholarly presentation.

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**Semple, E. C.** *Influences of Geographic Environment on the Basis of Ratzel's System of Anthro-Geography.* Pp. xvi, 683. Price, \$4.00. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1911.

This book must be regarded as the most valuable contribution to the subject of anthro-geography that has yet been published. Based upon Ratzel's "Anthro-Geography" it does very much more than make available in English many of the facts and conclusions of that great and pioneer work. Miss Semple has written a new book. She has arranged and classified, tested and verified, the facts of Ratzel, altered and revised many of his conclusions, and at the same time added much original material gathered from a very wide range of reading and observation, put together according to her own plan and making out her own ideas. The book is at once a survey of the great field of environmental influence upon human activities and a mine of information of great value, especially to the geographer and the student of the social and political sciences, and of absorbing interest to the intelligent general reader. This book is a good illustration of the meaning and the value of scientific geography.

To give in a few words an adequate idea of its subject matter is impossible. The scope and range of the discussion is indicated by the chapter headings, some of which are: The Operation of Geographic Factors in History; Classes of Geographic Environment; Society and State in Relation to the Land; Movements of Peoples in their Geographic Significance; Coast Peoples; Island Peoples; Influences of Mountain Environment; The Influences of Climate, etc. It is perhaps inevitable that in a work of such scope and character as this occasional over-emphasis may be laid upon the influence

of environment. Miss Semple's illustrations are so well chosen, however, that such criticism is reduced to a minimum.

The following quotation from the opening chapter may well serve to give an idea of the author's style and the general thesis treated in the entire book: "Man is a product of the earth's surface. . . . She has entered into his bone and tissue, into his mind and soul. On the mountains she has given him leg muscles of iron to climb the slope, . . . . In the river valley she attaches him to the fertile soil, circumscribes his ideas and ambitions by a dull round of calm, exacting duties, narrows his outlook to the cramped horizon of his farm. Upon the wind-swept plateaus, in the boundless stretch of the grasslands and the waterless tracts of the desert, where he roams with his flocks from pasture to pasture, where life knows much hardship but escapes the grind of drudgery, where the watching of grazing herd gives him leisure for contemplation, and the wide-ranging life a big horizon, his ideas take on a certain gigantic simplicity; religion becomes monotheism, God becomes one, unrivalled like the sand of the desert and the grass of the steppe, stretching on and on without break or change."

A most commendable feature of a book of this size is its devices for making it readily accessible as a reference. Not only does it contain a full table of contents and complete index, but marginal paragraph headings are found on each page, and at the end of each chapter is a full list of references to authorities quoted or referred to in the text.

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**Vrooman, F. B.** *The New Politics.* Pp. 300. Price, \$1.50. New York: Oxford University Press, 1911.

Those who are interested in the recent efforts in the direction of a reorganization of political parties will no doubt welcome this volume of stimulating suggestions on "The New Politics." The writer disavows any intention of presenting to the public either a treatise or a collection of essays. He offers rather a series of comments, quotations and criticisms bearing on the politics of the United States past and present.

Eighteenth century individualism which favored the restriction of government functions within the narrowest possible limits is held responsible for most of the ills of our political and social life. It is maintained that it was to the interest of the exploiter, the financier, and the politician to have no state control which would protect the weak from the onslaughts of the strong; and that freedom of contract, free competition and a free reign to individual initiative under a *laissez faire* philosophy resulted in a theory of the state which supported private interests at the expense of public rights. The doctrine attributed to Machiavelli, that politics and economics are to be separated from ethics, is condemned because it is regarded as furnishing a basis in morals and philosophy for the man who wishes to place self-interest and personal greed above all else in business and social life. Adam Smith and the classical economists, Rousseau, Jefferson, and Bentham, are held